KEITH JARRETT
THE OLD COUNTRY
GARY PEACOCK
PAUL MOTIAN

More from the **Deer Head Inn**

ECM

THE OLD COUNTRY

Keith Jarrett piano

Gary Peacock double bass

Paul Motian drums

The Deer Head

When I was about 16 and still living in Allentown, PA. (where I was born), I got a phone call from a drummer I didn't know, who said that there was a place called the Deer Head Inn that needed a trio to fill in one night for the house trio. He also said this was a jazz room and we could play what we wanted.

At this time I had a day job as a shipping clerk at an electrical supply company. This job payed $48 per week and I had just graduated from high school. I had worked locally with some fairly good players (for Allentown), but these jobs were either "commercial" gigs or they were somehow "strange" otherwise. I did often play marimba in a trio because there was no piano at the shopping center bar where we worked.

So, the Deer Head Inn was my first serious trio job on piano.

Over the years, the Deer Head has remained a place for jazz (over 40 years!) and this policy has remained the same (not to mention the room itself). When the owners (Bob & Fay Lehr) retired, their daughter and son-in-law took it over. As a re-christening of their renewed commitment to good music, I decided to play there again. In the intervening years I played often at the Deer Head, but mostly as a drummer in the house trio (with Johnny Coates on piano). Many great players would come and sit in every weekend, and once, while I was sitting in on guitar, Stan Getz offered me a job (as a guitarist!).

Not only had I not played piano at the Deer Head for 30 years, but I hadn't played with Paul Motian for 16 years. So it was like a reunion and a jam session at the same time.

This particular evening was a warm, humid, rainy, foggy autumn night in the Pocono Mountains. The room was full of people, and outside on the porch more people listened through the screen doors.

My friend Bill Goodwin had offered to make a documentary recording for me, and when I heard it I said to myself that this had to be released someday. I think that you can hear on this tape, what jazz is all about.

Keith Jarrett

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The Old Country

More from the Deer Head Inn

The music from the Deer Head Inn has a special place among Keith Jarrett's extensive reckonings with the American songbook, the spontaneously organized performance of September 1992 marking the only occasion on which Paul Motian and Gary Peacock played together with the pianist. Paul, of course, was a veteran of Keith's great "American Quartet" with Charlie Haden and Dewey Redman, and Gary, at the time of the recording, was a committed member of the group completed by Jack DeJohnette, usually referred to as the "Standards Trio".

If this was a first and only time with Keith, however, Gary and Paul could also draw upon a musical understanding they had shared in the early 1960s alongside Paul Bley, as well as formative individual experiences with Bill Evans. The music from the Deer Head Inn, recorded live before a small but attentive audience, finds these players honouring the song forms of the standard tunes that Keith summons forth, while also inflecting the music with their own character. Countless musicians have played these tunes, but not like this.

We released the first selection of music from the Deer Head Inn in 1994, thirty years ago, and, returning to the original recordings recently, Keith and I felt that it would be good to share more of it.

Manfred Eicher

1 **Everything I Love** 8:11
Cole Porter
(Chappell & Co.Inc.)

2 **I Fall In Love Too Easily** 9:54
Jule Styne / Sammy Cahn
(EMI Feist Catalog Inc. / Applause And Encore Music)

3 **Straight No Chaser** 8:51
Thelonious Monk
(Thelonious Music Corp.)

4 **All Of You** 9:46
Cole Porter
(Chappell & Co.Inc.)

5 **Someday My Prince Will Come** 6:56
Frank Churchill / Larry Morey
(Bourne Co.)

6 **The Old Country** 12:54
Nat Adderley
(UPAM Music Co.)

7 **Golden Earrings** 8:25
Victor Young / Jay Livingston / Raymon B. Evans
(Paramount Music)

8 **How Long Has This Been Going On** 8:32
George Gershwin / Ira Gershwin
(New World Music Company Ltd.)

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at the Deer Head Inn
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Liner photo: David W. Coulter
Design: Sascha Kleis
Produced by Bill Goodwin

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